

NOTE

New Combination and New Synonymy in North American  
*Stenopodius* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Hispinae)  
with a Taxonomic Note on Uroplatini

While revising the nearctic species of *Brachycoryna* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Hispinae) I found that *Brachycoryna lateralis* Schaeffer (1933, Pan Pac. Entomol. 9: 105) belonged in the genus *Stenopodius*. *Stenopodius* is the only nearctic genus in the tribe Uroplatini in which the third tarsal segment is not bilobed. *Stenopodius lateralis* also differs from other species of *Brachycoryna* by having eight rows of punctures on each elytron instead of ten.

Further investigation revealed that *S. lateralis* is conspecific with *S. vanduzeei* Blaisdell (1939, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 64: 440). Couplet A in Blaisdell's (1939: 427) key concerns the shape of the anterior pronotal margin. *Stenopodius lateralis* keys out at this couplet. *Stenopodius vanduzeei* differs from all other species of *Stenopodius* by having the anterior margin of the pronotum straight and having eight rows of punctures on each elytron. Comparing the types, I was unable to find a single non-sexual character to separate the specimens.

The lectotype of *S. lateralis*, here designated (Ft. Collin[s] Colo[rado], Schaeffer Collection, H. S. Barber Bequest, 1950, U.S. National Museum) is a male while the holotype of *S. vanduzeei* is a female.

The previously recorded range of *S. lateralis* is Colorado and California. I have also seen specimens from Arizona (Gila Bend), Minnesota (state label only), and Wyoming (state label only).

*Stenopodius lateralis* differs from all other species of *Stenopodius* by having the anterior margin of the pronotum straight rather than angularly produced at middle. This necessitates a change in Arnett's (1973, Beetles of the United States) key XIV on page 916. Couplet nine should be changed to read:

- 9(8). Third tarsal segment obviously bilobed ..... *Brachycoryna*  
– Third tarsal segment not bilobed ..... *Stenopodius*

The life history and biology of the species of *Stenopodius* are unknown. In the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. there is a series of *S. lateralis* from Arizona, Gila Bend, 26/VI/48, H. S. Barber, host plant-*Sphaeralcea emoryi* J. Torr. (Malvaceae). These specimens were taken in a mixed population with *S. texanus* Schaeffer. There are two larvae on points with this collection, so one of the species was breeding in *Sphaeralcea*. Further collecting is needed to clarify this situation.

I thank N. D. Penny (California Academy of Sciences) and R. E. White (Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, USDA) for allowing me to examine specimens in the collections under their care. R. E. White also commented on an earlier draft of this manuscript.

C. L. Staines, Jr., 3302 Decker Place, Edgewater, Maryland 21037.